REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in the application. Claim 1 has been amended to indicate that the hydroxyl component a) includes from 20 to 60 percent by weight based on a) of i) and from 40 to 80 percent of ii). Support for the amendment can be found at page 10, lines 11-17, page 11, lines 20-25, and the examples, particularly example 2, page 20, lines 1-14 and the table at the top of page 24. Claims 4-15, 19 and 20 have been cancelled. No new matter is added by way of the amendments.

Claim Objections

Claims 1-20 are objected to because of the phrase "The present invention relates to." The objectionable phrase has been removed from Claim 1. Therefore, the objection should be withdrawn.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(A)

Claims 1-6 and 10-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(A) as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 6,265,517 B1 to Stuart (hereinafter "Stuart"). The Examiner asserts that Stuart discloses the claimed polyether urethane containing composition with the exception of the degree of unsaturation, which would have been obvious based on the disclosure in Stuart of using Acclaim polyols.

The present invention is directed to a process for preparing a moisture-curable, alkoxysilane-functional polyether urethane by reacting at an NCO:OH equivalent ratio of 1.5:1 to 2.5:1 a) hydroxyl component, b) an isocyanate component, and c) compounds containing an isocyanate-reactive group and one or more reactive silane groups. The hydroxyl component a) contains i) 20 to 60% by weight, based on the weight of component a), of a polyether containing two hydroxyl groups and one or more polyether segments, and ii) 40 to 80% by weight, based on the weight of component a), of a polyether containing one hydroxyl group and one or more polyether segments. The isocyanate component b) contains i) 20 to 100% by weight, based on the weight of component b), of a compound containing two isocyanate groups, and ii) 0 to 80% by weight, based on the weight of component b), of a compound containing one isocyanate group. The reaction of a) and b) forms an

isocyanate-containing reaction product that is subsequently reacted with c) compounds containing an isocyanate-reactive group and one or more reactive silane groups to form a moisture-curable, alkoxysilane-functional polyether urethane, provided that total percentages of a-ii) and b-ii) add up to at least 10.

Stuart discloses a silylated polyether urethane prepolymers prepared from endcap precursors containing dialkyl maleates having alkyl groups containing greater than four carbon atoms. The polyether urethane prepolymer is the adduct of at least one polyol and at least one diisocyanate with a ratio of equivalents of isocyanate to polyol of about 1.3:1 to about 2.0: 1 (col. 5, lines 47-61). The amino groups of the endcap precursor react with the pendant isocyanate groups of the prepolymer to form urea and urethane segments in the silylated prepolymer (col. 7, lines 46-50). Diols are used (less than 31% monool content) so as to form silylated polyether urethane prepolymers containing two or more silylated endcap groups in order to maximize crosslinking and cure rates. A monool content of less than 4% is preferred (col. 6, lines 10-35).

As indicated above, Stuart teaches away from including monools, and therefore teaches away from silylated polyether urethane prepolymers prepared from polyethers containing one hydroxyl group. Further, there is no disclosure or suggestion in Stuart to use from 20 to 60% of a polyether containing two hydroxyl groups and from 40 to 80% of a polyether containing one hydroxyl group to make alkoxysilane-functional polyether urethanes as in the amended claims.

As Stuart does not disclose, suggest or motivate, and in fact teaches away from the claimed process, Stuart does not render Claims 1-6 and 10-20 obvious. Therefore, the rejection of Claims 1-6 and 10-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) should be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants assert that the claims are in form for allowance. Therefore, reconsideration of the rejections and allowance of Claims 1-3 and 16-18 are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

By _____
Gary F. Matz
Agent for Applicants
Reg. No. 45,504

Bayer Polymers LLC
100 Bayer Road
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15205-9741
(412) 777-3897
FACSIMILE PHONE NUMBER:
(412) 777-3902
lo/MATZ/gfm183